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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/771,916	02/04/2004	Ismat Ali Abu-Isa	DP-309400	3491

7590 02/06/2006
JIMMY L. FUNKE
DELPHI TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
Legal Staff, Mail Code: 480-410-202
P.O. Box 5052
Troy, MI 48007-5052



EXAMINER

SANDERS, KRIELLION ANTIONETTE

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1714

DATE MAILED: 02/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/771,916	Applicant(s) ABU-ISA, ISMAT ALI	
	Examiner Kriellion A. Sanders	Art Unit 1714	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>2/04, 8/05</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The incorporation of essential material in the specification by reference to an unpublished U.S. application, foreign application or patent, or to a publication is improper. Applicant is required to amend the disclosure to include the material incorporated by reference, if the material is relied upon to overcome any objection, rejection, or other requirement imposed by the Office. The amendment must be accompanied by a statement executed by the applicant, or a practitioner representing the applicant, stating that the material being inserted is the material previously incorporated by reference and that the amendment contains no new matter. 37 CFR 1.57(f).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-11, 13-17 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Abu-Isa et al, US Patent No. 5834535 in view of Lee et al, US Patent No. 5,643,999.

Applicant's invention pertains to an intumescent composition comprising per 100 parts by weight:

20-45 parts of a polymer mixture of a high-density polyethylene and an olefinic copolymer

5-25 parts of a nitrogenous gas-generating agent

10-35 parts of a water vapor-generating agent

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1-35 parts of an antioxidant

0-15 parts of a reinforcing agent

Abu-Isa et al, 5834535 discloses intumescent compositions useful as heat barriers, that comprise high density polyethylene (HDPE) and/or chlorinated polyethylene (CPE). The high density polyethylene resin may be mixed with a chlorinated polyethylene elastomer and/or a silicone rubber in such a proportion as to obtain desired physical properties in a molded part. When the properties of a thermoplastic elastomer are not required, either HDPE or CPE may be used alone as the resin matrix. The polyethylene constituent of the compositions has a density in the range of 0.940 to 0.970 g/cm³. The compositions are used to form thermoplastic moldings.

Patentee indicates that any suitably compatible stabilizer may be used with HDPE and/or CPE for protection against heat and oxygen. Suitable antioxidants include a system consisting of distearylthiodipropionate (DSTDP) and a butylated reaction product of p-cresol and dicyclopentadiene.

A gas-generating foaming Agents is also included in the compositions. These agents are used to foam the polymeric matrix before it is consumed by the fire. The residue that remains after burning of most organic material will have a porous char structure and will thus be an effective thermal barrier. Two preferred gas-generating agents used in the invention are ammonium dihydrogen phosphate, and ammonium polyphosphate. Hydrated alumina and hydrated magnesia are also preferred because they emit water vapor when heated.

Patentee further employs a char former in the composition. Any suitable compatible starch or other carbohydrate may be used in the moldable compositions to form heavy char when

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exposed to fire. Polyhydric alcohols also perform the same function. A preferred char former is monopentaerythritol or dipentaerythritol.

Patentee further states that other ingredients are beneficially added to the intumescent moldable material of the invention. The first is a filler consisting of glass fibers, mica particles and/or titanium oxide powder. These fillers help strengthen the molding and develop a strong structure of the material after intumescenting. The second ingredient is antimony oxide which imparts fire-retardant properties to the intumescent material and hence slows down the burning process. The components of the patented invention are used in amounts that overlap with applicant's amounts. See Table 1. Also see col. 1, line 55 through col. 3, line 35, col. 4, line 13 through col. 5, line 56 and col. 17, lines 1-7. The patented compositions differ from applicant's in that they do not include a polyolefin copolymer as specified in the present claims or relate to thermoset moldings.

Lee et al discloses adhesive compositions useful as heat barriers comprising:

(A) 70-95 weight %, based on (A) plus (B), of a blend of polyethylene polymers, the blend consisting essentially of:

(a) 5-40 weight percent, based on (A), of a first polyethylene polymer having a density of 0.86 to below 0.91 g/cc. This includes copolymers of ethylene and octane.

(b) 60-95 weight percent, based on (A), of a second polyethylene polymer having a density of 0.910 to 0.935 g/cc. This may include up to 1% of high density polyethylene.

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(B) 5-30 percent based on (A) plus (B), of a hydrocarbon elastomer having a heat of fusion based on DSC of less than 25 joules/gram. This includes ethylene propylene copolymers for example.

The compositions of Lee et al are said to have excellent adhesion capabilities and are useful for forming heat-sealing layers in, for example, packaging applications.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art seeking to improve the adhesion of the resin binder in the intumescent compositions of Abu-Isa et al, to utilize a polymer mixture of Lee et al as opposed to the single polyolefin component of Abu-Isa et al, absent a clear showing of unexpected results. Applicant's claims are silent as to the ratios of high density polyethylene and olefin copolymer used in the compositions. Applicant's comparative data in the specification does not indicate that anything unexpected is achieved by using the presently claimed olefin blend of polymers as opposed to the individual polyolefin of Abu-Isa et al.

Double Patenting

4. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

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Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

5. Claims 1-30 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-35 of copending Application No. 10/771,972. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the compositions of the present application are intended for moldings. The molded compositions of the '972 application require the specific molded compositions of the present application. The '972 moldings represent obvious use for the presently claimed compositions.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kriellion A. Sanders whose telephone number is 571-272-1122. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday 6:30-7:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vasu Jagannathan can be reached on 571-272-1119. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Kriellion A. Sanders
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1714

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	1
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Complete if Known

Application Number	10/779,916
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Filing Date	02/04/2004
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First Named Inventor	ABU-ISA
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Art Unit	1711
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Examiner Name

Attorney Docket Number	7892-18
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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
KS		EP 1331242	07/30/2003	DELPHI TECHNOLOGIES, INC.		
KS		JP 01101346	04/19/1989	MITSUBISHI CABLE IND. LTD.		

**Examiner
Signature**

Kueller Savelle

Date Considered

1130 / 06

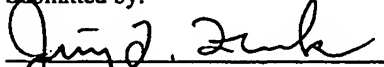
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION WITH DOCUMENT COPIES

Submitted by:



JIMMY L. FUNKE

Delphi Technologies, Inc.,

Reg. No. 34166

Atty. Docket No.

DP-309400

Serial No.

Applicant

ISMAT ALI ABU-ISA

Filing Date

Group

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Init.	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date (if approp.)
KS	5204393	04/1993	Nalepa et al	524	101	
	5834535	11/1998	Abu-Isa et al	523	179	
	6184269	02/2001	Abu-Isa et al	523	179	
	6528558	03/2003	Lewin	524	100	
	6559963	07/2003	Horsey et al	524	100	
KS	6632442	10/2003	Chyall et al	424	400	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation Yes No

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner 

Date Considered

1/30/06

***Examiner: Initial if reference considered whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.**

Form PTO-FB-A820 (also PTO-1449) Patent & Trademark


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Notice of References Cited	Application/Control No. 10/771,916	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination ABU-ISA, ISMAT ALI	
	Examiner Kriellion A. Sanders	Art Unit 1714	Page 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	Classification
*	A	US-5,643,999	07-1997	Lee et al.	525/193
	B	US-			
	C	US-			
	D	US-			
	E	US-			
	F	US-			
	G	US-			
	H	US-			
	I	US-			
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	P					
	Q					
	R					
	S					
	T					

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

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	V	
	W	
	X	

*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)
Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.